

skilled bipartisan leadership in the areas of budget policy, taxes, health care, higher education, children's issues and the environment. He served successfully on such diverse committees as Finance, State Affairs, Local Government and Transportation, and he co-chaired the Kid's Caucus. He was valued as an experienced voice on substantive policy issues when working on the Governor's 1996 Health Care Task Force and the 1997 Old Age Pension Plan Committee.

From 1997 to 1999, I had the good fortune to be Todd's junior colleague in the State House of Representatives. I appreciated Todd's generosity and loyalty, his professionalism and his code of ethics. He has been unswerving in his commitment to policies that serve the environment, the education and the health of people, and principles of integrity and fairness. An important part of his legislative focus has been responsible growth management and environmental preservation.

He has been especially effective in his support for early intervention and prevention for children at risk of abuse and neglect and for improving our public education by reducing class size and fully funding public education. He has been honored as Legislator of the Year by the Colorado Association of Nonprofit Organizations, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Colorado Behavioral Health Care Council, the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, the Community Health Network, the University of Colorado at Boulder, the Colorado Social Legislation Committee, the Colorado Community Center Boards, and the Sierra Club. Last year, he was honored for his distinguished service by the Colorado Children's Campaign. During his tenure as an elected official, Todd was also the Development Director for the People's Clinic and a policy consultant with the Bell Policy Center.

I ask my colleagues to join with me in expressing our gratitude to Representative Saliman for his example of idealistic public service and the many contributions he has made to the people of Colorado. My family and I wish him, his wife, Michelle, and their son, Max, good health and happiness in their future together.

HONORING DR. TOMÁS ARCINIEGA

HON. CALVIN M. DOOLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2002

Mr. DOOLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Tomás Arciniega, who has served my community for 20 years as the President of California State University, Bakersfield. During his tenure, Dr. Arciniega has played an important role in developing CSU Bakersfield into an institution that offers outstanding educational, professional and athletic programs in the Central Valley.

Dr. Tomás Arciniega has served as the President of CSU Bakersfield since 1983. During his first year, 3,383 students were enrolled and Arciniega oversaw a \$16.7 million budget. Since then, the budget has increased to more than \$60 million and the school annually enrolls more than 7,700 students. During his tenure, 13,568 students have earned baccalaureate degrees and 3,692 have earned master's degrees from CSU Bakersfield.

Dr. Arciniega's commitment to improving the educational opportunities at CSU Bakersfield was vital to the University being accepted into the prestigious California State University system in 1987. In 1998 he was successful in creating a Master's of Social Work program, meeting a long-time community need. Dr. Arciniega has become a recognized leader among Kern County educators for his involvement as the chairman of a local teacher education committee, which aims to develop better teachers for the future.

In addition, Dr. Arciniega has provided a boost to the professional development of CSU Bakersfield. In 1990, the University hosted its first annual Bakersfield Business Conference, which was attended by over 10,000 participants. A year later, the Bakersfield Business Conference drew 12,500 participants. In 2000, CSU Bakersfield celebrated its 30th anniversary and concluded the year long Cornerstone Campaign that raised more than \$12 million, making it the most successful fundraising efforts in Kern County history.

Under Dr. Arciniega's leadership, CSU Bakersfield also developed an athletics program that has been successful competing on the national level while promoting gender equity. In 1993, CSU Bakersfield pledged to achieve gender equity in athletics and in 1998 they reached their goal of providing greater opportunities for women student-athletes. The athletic program was so successful in the 1997–1998 school year that they were presented with the Sears Cup for the best NCAA Division II athletic program in the nation. In addition, the Men's Basketball team won the NCAA Division II National championship in 1993 and 1994.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in congratulating Dr. Tomás Arciniega for his contributions to the Bakersfield community as the President of California State University, Bakersfield for the past 20 years.

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS J. KELLY

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2002

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of my friend and brother in the labor movement, Mr. Thomas J. Kelly. Mr. Kelly has been honored by our fellow Philadelphians for his unyielding role as a driving force within Philadelphia's powerful labor movement for over a quarter of a century.

As a prime example of successful labor leadership that exemplifies this "Union Town", he has served as President and Business Manager of Sheet Metal Workers' Local Union 19 from 1979 to 2002. He recently accepted an appointment to serve as the General Secretary-Treasurer of the Sheet Metal Workers' International Association in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Kelly began his apprenticeship with Local 19 in 1965 at the age of 19. He went on to become a business agent and finally was elected to Local 19's top position which he has held for eight consecutive terms. Under his stewardship, union membership has grown to over 4,000, development has increased with the construction of the multi-million dollar Administrative Building, the adjacent state-of-the-

art Training Center, and the highly successful Penn's Landing Caterers, and Mr. Kelly was instrumental in negotiations for a historic gambling casino enterprise.

He has been recognized for many achievements and held numerous union leadership roles; however, he cherishes most the plaque received from Local 19's rank and file membership, which cites him "... for leading the Union with Courage, Wisdom, and Tenacity."

Married to Linda, Tom's family includes his three children, Susan Tynpel, Thomas Jr., and Kathleen and one grandchild, Lauren Tynpel. I am quite sure Tom's entire family is very proud of his numerous accomplishments.

It is a privilege to recognize a person whose leadership and commitment to community has enriched the lives of countless individuals. I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Mr. Kelly for his lifetime of service and dedication to Pennsylvania's First Congressional District.

ELIZABETH BELL LAYTON PEEK,
MOTHER OF REVEREND V. LONNIE
PEEK, JR., MEMORIALIZED
IN DETROIT, MICHIGAN

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2002

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, on November 19, 2002, the mother of Reverend V. Lonnie Peek was memorialized at Greater Christ Baptist Church, whose renowned pastor is Reverend James Perkins.

Mrs. Peek was an activist, writer and deeply religious person greatly admired in her community and throughout metropolitan Detroit. She raised and had a strong influence on her son, Reverend Peek.

The following excerpts from her writings capture the style, wit and philosophy of this amazing 20th century African American woman. We are proud of her contributions and she will be sorely missed.

Elizabeth Bell Layton Peek is my name and I was born on March 27, 1921 in Northport, Alabama as the 7th child of Willie Cunningham Layton and Vonnice Layton. Back then life was simple and strong family values were the keys that bind us together. I was the "twinkle in my father's eye" so I didn't have to work the cotton fields, and besides I was kind of skinny. So I became mother's helper—not in the kitchen... my job was ironing the clothes for the family.

Education was a vital part of our life, and we worked hard to be good students. A very good speller, I won the "Spelling B" and father showed his pride by telling everyone I could pick a bale of cotton faster than anyone he knew. Daddy died when I was 15. This event forcefully made us not only endure but excel at what my father taught us about survival and family. The older children quickly took on the responsibility of the younger ones—my brother Mack was my provider. Mack always bought me the best of clothes and because of his generosity I out-dressed everyone in the family.

I had a special bond with my brother Vonnice, who would sneak me out of the house to go dancing; I loved to dance, we could really "cut a rug" together. Vonnice had a friend that I met named Vassie who played on the football team. Boy, was he something!! Vonnice would help us to see each

other, because I was not allowed to date. Vassie later became my husband . . . the love of my life. On January 8, 1939 we eloped, and were married by Vassie's pastor Rev. Harvey. On our wedding night I went back home to sleep without Vassie. The word got out the next day and my younger sister Jessie Ray came home and told mother "Lizzie B (that's what they called me) had married that gray haired Vassie Peek." He was really something!!

Soon Vassie decided that the only way to make a good life for us was to move to Detroit. Vassie started out for Detroit, but stopped in Asbury Park, New Jersey to work temporarily. He immediately joined Mt. Pisgal Baptist Church and became the surrogate son to two families, the Sims and the Griffins. He decided to stay and sent for me soon after.

I was a homemaker, who was accused by her friends of always staying home "shaking the pots and pans." My kitchen was the gathering place for all my friends. Everyday I had a hot meal ready for Vassie—a meat, starch, and "fresh" vegetables, along with hot homemade bread . . . everyday!!

To this Alabama girl Asbury Park was the "big city." Two of my brothers later joined us in New Jersey, Vonnice and Mack, and you know what, I was the only female in my family to ever leave home. One weekend we decided to really do it up big since we were only 45 miles from New York City, we decided to go to this club called Smalls Paradise in Harlem. We stayed at the ritzy St. Theresa Hotel, and woke up with bed bugs all over our bodies.

After moving to Detroit and applying for social security I found out that I was a whole year younger than I thought! Throughout my married life, Vassie liked to brag about being 10 years older than me, but little did he know he was 11 years older.

I now reside with Lonnie and my "other daughter" Eunice, his wife, who helps me to get ready and takes me to church with them.

I am blessed to have had two wonderful sons-in-law, the late Chuck Russell, who could always make me laugh and Freddy Haynes who I love to cheat while playing Chinese checkers.

Lonnie has given me my two oldest grandchildren: Monique, who resides in Los Ange-

les and Lonnie III, of Detroit. Patty has given me three grandchildren: Chalaze, Charles III and Chavin all of Detroit. Debbie has given me my youngest grandchild Abeni, who lives in Dallas. I am a great grandmother of 4: Choree, Chambel, Charli and Chad-Elizabeth.

I am blessed. My family and friends truly loves me and I love them. I am loved and pampered in two states. I spend part of the year in Detroit under the watchful eye of Lonnie and Patty, and the other part in Dallas with the boss of the family, Debbie.

I hope you have enjoyed these little stories of my life. It's always good to remember our unique link to the past . . . I treasure mine. The world is moving so rapidly, and I know we must move with it. I am bringing my "values" with me as I go forward from day-to-day.

Today I am blessed to have all of you celebrate my 80th birthday before I leave for Dallas on tomorrow. Make sure you all give me a big hug and at least 80 kisses and prayers!!!